

## Message Text

PAGE 01 SEOUL 05515 220855Z

11

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10

SAM-01 ACDA-05 /072 W

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R 220825Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1590

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SEOUL 5515

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: PRESS REACTION TO SCM

1. ROK PRESS REACTION TO ANNOUNCEMENT OF 1975 US/ROK SECURITY  
CONFULTATIVE MEETING (SCM) HAS FOCUSEDNON PERSONAL  
PARTICIPATION BY DEFENSE SECRETARY SCHLESINGER. SEVERAL  
EDITORIALS INTERPRET SECDEF PARTICIPATION AS US RESPONSE  
TO INCREASED THREAT FOLLOWING THE FALL OF INDOCHINA.

2. KYONGHYANG SINMUN STATED JULY 19 THAT PARTICIPATION BY  
SECRETARY SCHLESINGER "INDICATES VERY DECIDEDLY HOW  
SERIOUSLY THE NATION IS THREATENED MILITARILY BY THE NORTH  
KOREAN COMMUNISTS AT THE PRESENT TIME AND HOW SINCERE THE  
UNITED STATES IS TO FAITHFULLY STAND BY ITS SECURITY  
COMMITMENT TO THE NATION." ENGLISH LANGUAGE KOREA TIMES  
ATTACHES PARTICULAR SIGNIFICANCE TO PARTICIPATION OF THE  
DEFENSE SECRETARY "IN VIEW OF THE DRASTICALLY CHANGED OVERALL  
POLITICAL SITUATION IN ASIA IN THE WAKE OF THE FALL OF  
SAIGON AND PHNOM PENH."

3. ALTHOUGH MOST EDITORIALS MENTION REPEATED OFFICIAL  
REAFFIRMATION BY US THAT IT WILL KEEP ITS DEFENSE  
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PAGE 02 SEOUL 05515 220855Z

COMMITMENTS, KYONGHYANG SINMUN WRITES THAT "SOME KOREAN  
PEOPLE STILL DISTRUST OR FEEL UNEASY ABOUT US DETERMINATION  
TO STAND BY ITS DEFENSE COMMITMENT TO THE NATION". ACCORDINGLY,  
PAPER CALLS FOR SCM TO STRENGTHEN ROK/US SECURITY TIES AND

PROVIDE GUARANTEE OF MILITARY ASSISTANCE FOR ARMED FORCES  
MODERNIZATION, IN ORDER TO PREVENT WAR BY NORTH KOREAN  
"MISCALCULATION."

4. HANKUK ILBO PROPOSES THAT SCM DISCUSS STRENGTHENING  
US/ROK MUTUAL DEFENSE TREATY, A PERMANENT SECURITY  
CONSULTATIVE BODY, A NEW FORCE MODERNIZATION PLAN, AND REINFORCEMENT  
OF US FORCES KOREA. KOREA TIMES REPORTS THAT TWO COUNTRIES  
WILL DEAL WITH RAPID IMPLEMENTATION OF MOD PLAN WHICH IS  
BEHIND SCHEDULE DUE TO CUTS IN FUNDING BY CONGRESS.

5. TONGA ILBO CALLS FOR THE US TO PROVIDE TECHNICAL AND  
FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO ROK DEFENSE INDUSTRY TO HELP ROK  
ACHIEVE "SELF-RELIANT" NATIONAL DEFENSE. TONGA EXPRESSED  
HOPE THAT SCM WOULD HELP ROK AND US EVALUATE AND  
DETERMINE "TRUE" SITUATION ON KOREAN PENINSULA AND THUS  
TAKE ALL POSSIBLE MEASURES TO PREVENT ANOTHER COMMUNIST  
INVASION OF THE ROK.

6. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH MAJORITY ROK INDEPENDENT PRESS AND  
POLITICAL OPINION WOULD AGREE WITH ABOVE EDITORIAL  
COMMENTS, PRESS LIND ON SCM IS CLEARLY FOLLOWING GOVERNMENT  
INSTRUCTIONS. THIS IS REPRESENTATIVE OF RECENT PRESS  
TREND IN WHICH, ON MOST PRIORITY ISSUES, STORIES FROM  
VARIOUS PAPERS ARE ALMOST IDENTICAL IN POLICY LINE  
AND WORDING.  
SNEIDER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 26 AUG 1999  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** COLLECTIVE SECURITY, MEETINGS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 22 JUL 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** RowellE0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
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**Review Authority:** RowellE0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 09 JUL 2003  
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**To:** STATE INFO TOKYO  
CINCPAC  
**Type:** TE  
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